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8/9/25/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:
M. Patricia Beckmann et al.

Docket No.: 2814-G

Group Art Unit: 1646

Serial No: 09/904,954

Examiner: Prema Mertz

Filed: July 12, 2001

For: CYTOKINES THAT BIND THE CELL SURFACE RECEPTOR HEK

BOX NON-FEE

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated February 22, 2002 (Paper No. 4), in which election of an invention to the subject matter of one of the following three (3) groups of claims is required:

Group I Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-15 drawn to a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, a vector, a host cell, and a process for producing a polypeptide, classified in Class 435, subclass 69.1;

Group II Claims 28-33 drawn to a method for binding hek with a hek-L polypeptide, classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1; and

Group III Claims 28-33 [sic, 34-39] drawn to a method for binding elk, with a hek-L polypeptide classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1.

Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Group I for examination. In view of the traversal detailed below, Applicants request that the restriction requirement be revised so that the claims of Groups I, II, and II are examined together in this application.